

# Bangladesh

April Allderdice (NREL)



Unelectrified Population = 96 million

## Renewable Energy Development in Bangladesh

Bangladesh has seen the parallel development of private and public sector renewable energy rural electrification. Grameen Shakti is a not-for-profit rural power company whose purpose is to supply renewable energy to unelectrified villages in Bangladesh. While the Rural Electrification Board has electrified a remote island with solar PV, Grameen Shakti has developed a solar home system sales business. Grameen Shakti is also developing a wind powered microenterprise zone pilot project.

### Rural Electrification Board Solar Program

- The Bangladesh Rural Electrification Board (REB)
- Solar PV electrification of island village using home systems and battery charging stations.
- The project was installed in September 1996
- Narsingdi District, Bangladesh
- The project used the existing infrastructure of the REB that is responsible for rural grid extension in Bangladesh
- Customers pay a monthly fee between US\$2.30 and US\$4.80



Narsingdi Island people enjoy TV powered by solar energy



A solar-powered store offers longer hours for sales

### Grameen Shakti Solar Home Systems

- Solar home system sales network
- Sales began September 1996 in four initial zones in Bangladesh
- Grameen Shakti technicians work out of rural unit offices to ensure local sales and maintenance availability
- Solar home systems range in price from US\$3000 to US\$600
- Grameen Shakti offers a two-year credit term for sales.

### Grameen Shakti Wind-Powered Micro-Enterprise Zones

- Grameen Shakti
- Micro-enterprise Zones for enterprises that require more power than a solar home system can provide
- Installations scheduled the Fall of 1998
- Coastal area of Bangladesh
- Enterprises will operate out of Grameen Bank cyclone shelters, many of which already have Grameen Bank offices in them.
- End user payments are yet to be determined.



Installation of 1.5-kW wind turbine in Chokaria, Bangladesh